

Comprehensive Plan Task Force Meeting Minutes February 17, 2022 Harpswell Town Office

Approved March 17, 2022

Members Present: Allan LeGrow, Amy Haible, Philip Taylor, Ron Hutchins, Mary Ann Nahf, Julie Moulton, David Brown, Peter Lieberwirth, Bob Eaton, Brian Hirst, Monique Coombs and Kevin Johnson

Staff Present: Mark Eyerman, Planner

- 1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2.31 pm by Chairman, Allan LeGrow.
- 2. Introduction of Task Force and Agenda: Members introduced themselves and the agenda was reviewed.
- **3.** Recap of January 20, 2022 Meeting: Chairman LeGrow recapped the January 20, 2022 meeting and then turned to new business.
- **4. Discussion of Planning Process:** Chairman LeGrow discussed the planning process that initially called for the TF to divide and focus on separate subject areas based on member interest. After some discussion, the TF felt it would be more efficient and appropriated to address all issues as a unified body.
- **5. Discussion of Consultant Support:** The Town Planner led a discussion on the possible ways the town could use a consultant to support the planning effort. The consultant could be used as a "general contractor" directing activity based on the town's requirements, or it could rely on the TF to direct activities, providing support as directed. No clear consensus was reached and it was decided to consider the pros and cons of each approach and reach a decision at the next TF meeting. (Note: a driving factor on what would the most workable approach will depend on the funding the town authorizes at the upcoming town meeting.).
- **6. Harpswell Open Space Plan:** Mary Ann Nahf briefed the TF on Harpswell's current Open Space Plan. While it was developed in 2009, much remains relevant although Nahf believes it could be improved with some modification. The importance of preserving open space in the town was emphasized.
- 7. General Discussion: Kevin Johnson indicated that town meeting would be held in April. Included in the warrant that the town will consider is a request for \$90K for consultant support for the comprehensive plan update. Monique Coombs offered to establish a Google folder and link to allow the TF to store large documents for review and to provide

additional background. This link and folder would augment the town website. Chairman LeGrow mentioned that NOAA had recently released a study on sea-level rise and indicated he would send the link to the study to TF members.

- **8.** Consideration of January 20, 2022 Minutes: Action to approve the January minutes was deferred since a number of members had not reviewed the minutes.
- **9.** Task Force Member Action List: LeGrow will email a link to the latest NOAA sea level rise study; Coombs will establish a site and link to store relevant background studies.
- **10. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4pm without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Matthews

Staff Liaison